# Hydrogeologic Characteristics of the Columbia River Basalts near Goldendale, Washington

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## **Presentation Abstract**

- Basalt hydrogeology varies
  - Yield
  - Water quality
- Basalt deposition, recharge mechanism, and geologic structure affect hydrogeology
- Recent drilling explorations have . . .
  - Helped delineate basalt stratigraphy
  - Improved understanding of hydrogeology
  - Facilitated water-supply development

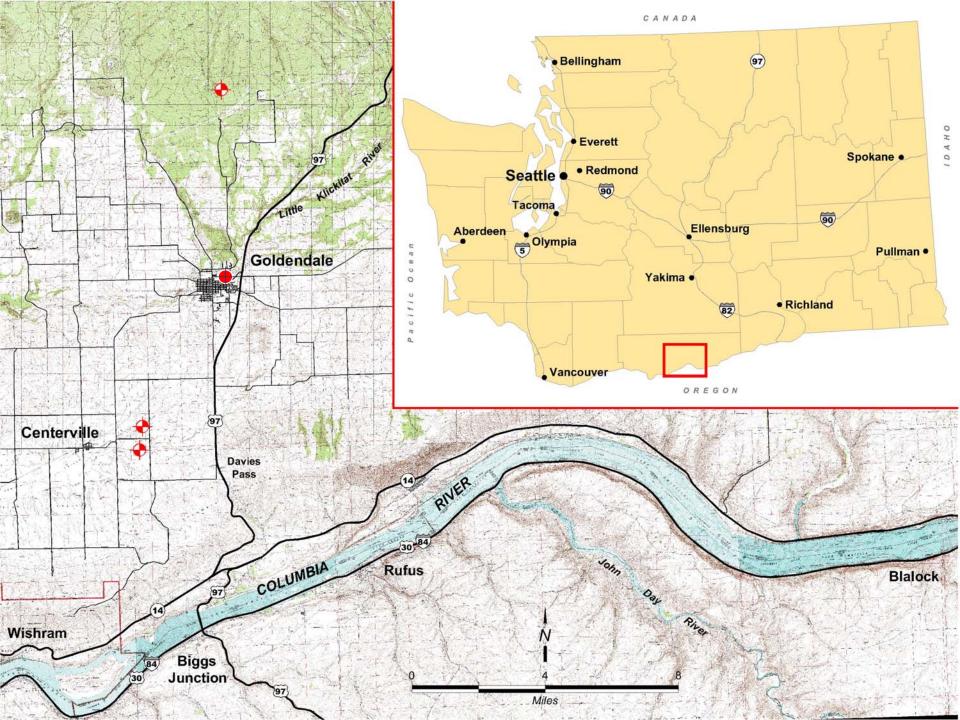
# Reason for Exploration

- Existing water supply is problematic
  - Spring-water supplies ...
    - Are susceptible to drought
    - Have water quality concerns
  - Local ground water has marginal quality
- Diversify water supply sources to ....
  - Augment or replace existing supplies
  - Meet future municipal demands

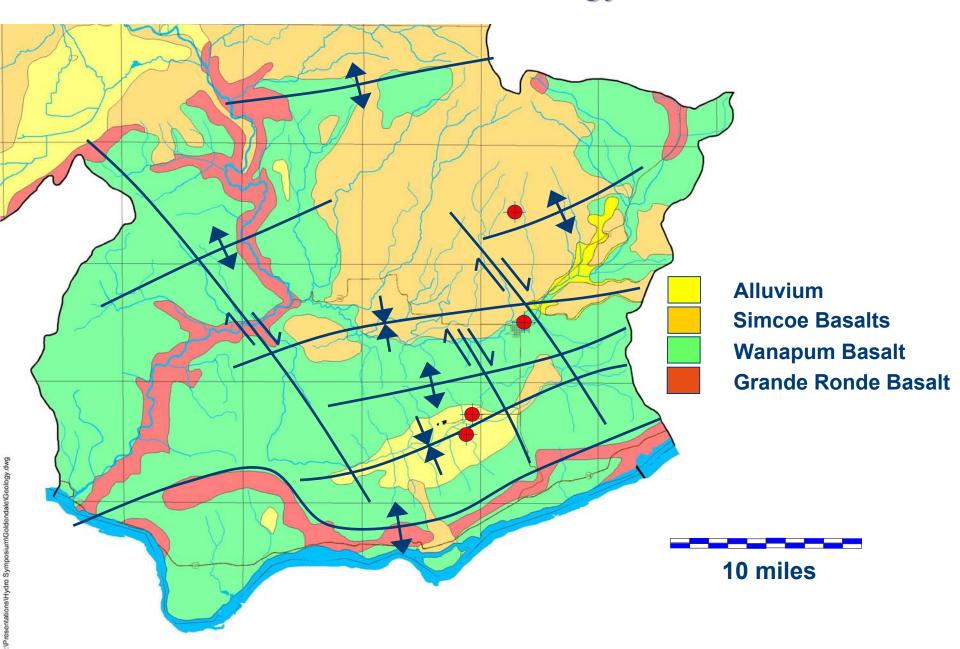
# **Exploration Objective**

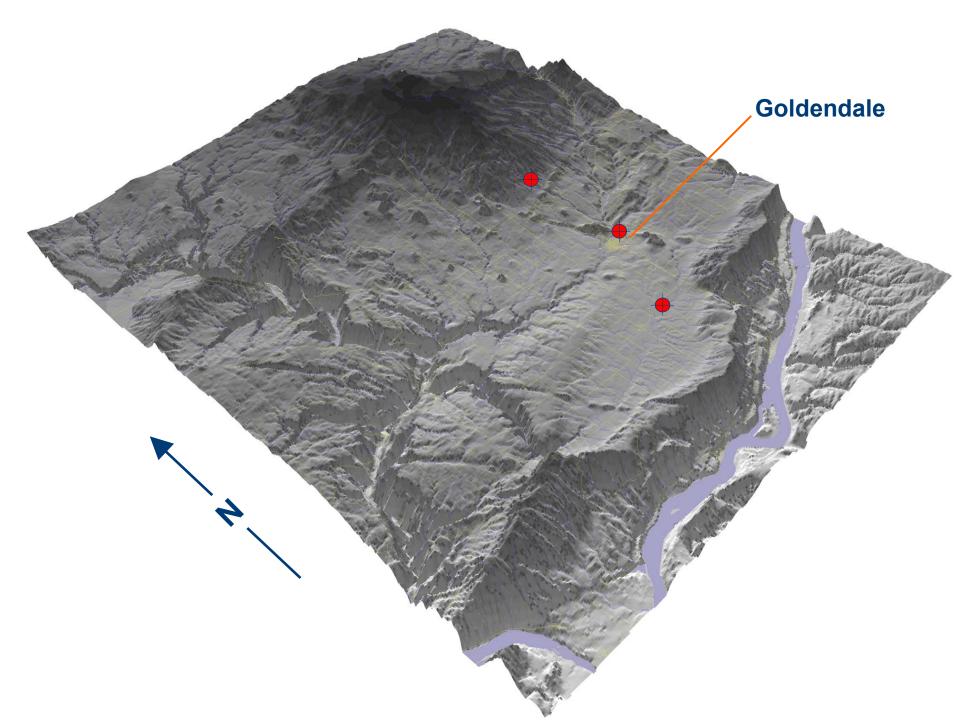
# Develop new water supplies from the basalt aquifer

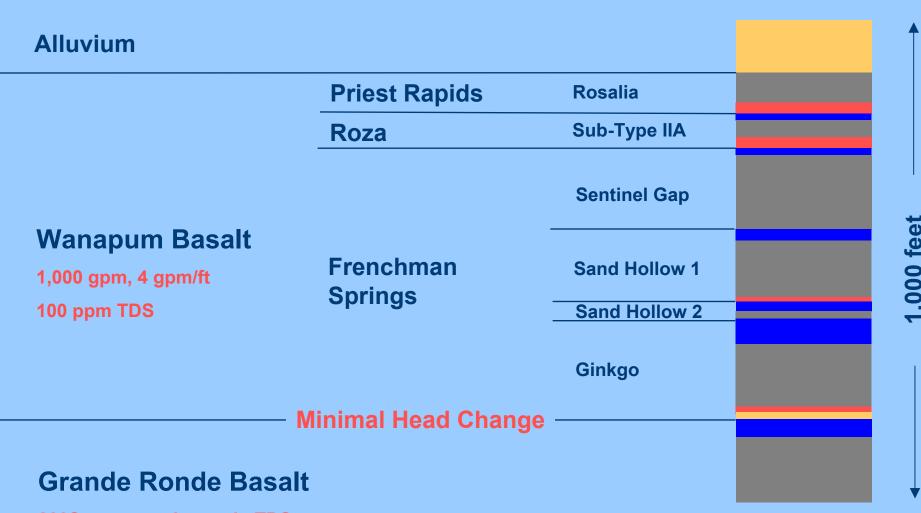
- There are two exploration areas
- The Wanapum Basalt is the primary target
- Young volcanics and the Grande Ronde Basalt are secondary targets



### **Surficial Geology**





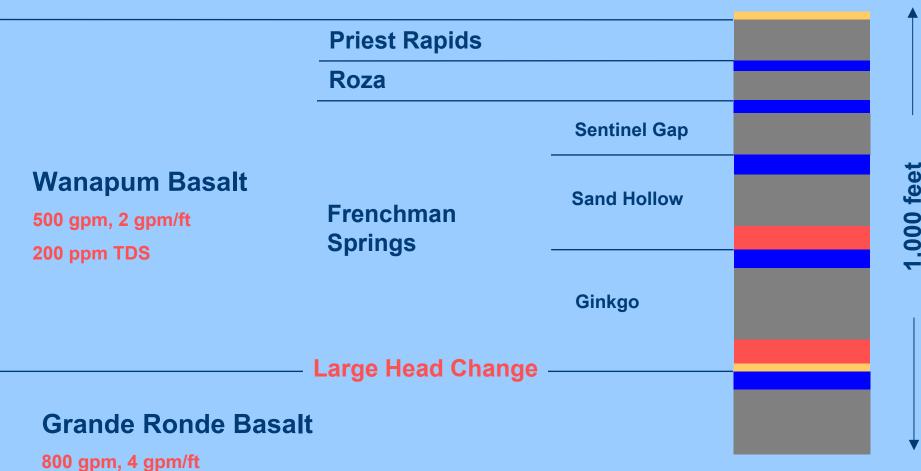


200? gpm, no change in TDS

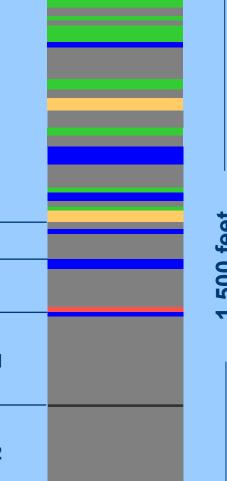
#### **Swale Creek Wells**

#### **Alluvium**

500 ppm TDS



**Third Street Well** 



#### **Simcoe Well**

#### **Simcoe Volcanics**

1,000 gpm, 40 gpm/ft 50 ppm TDS

**Large Head Change** 

**Priest Rapids** 

D. . . . l'

Lolo

Rosalia

#### **Wanapum Basalt**

50 gpm, < 1 gpm/ft High (?) TDS

Frenchman Springs

Sand Hollow 1

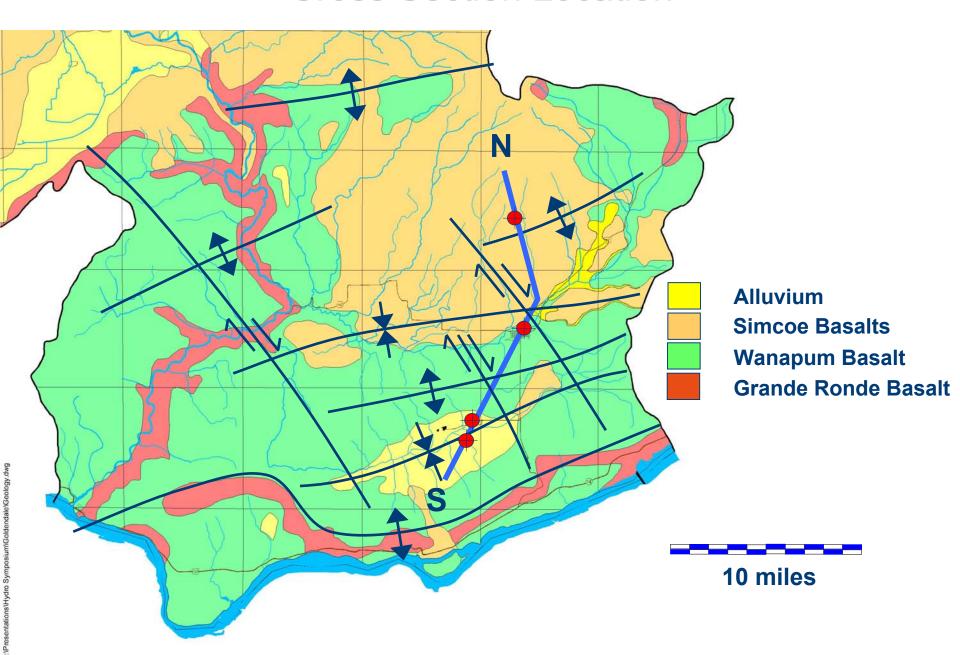
**Sand Hollow 2** 

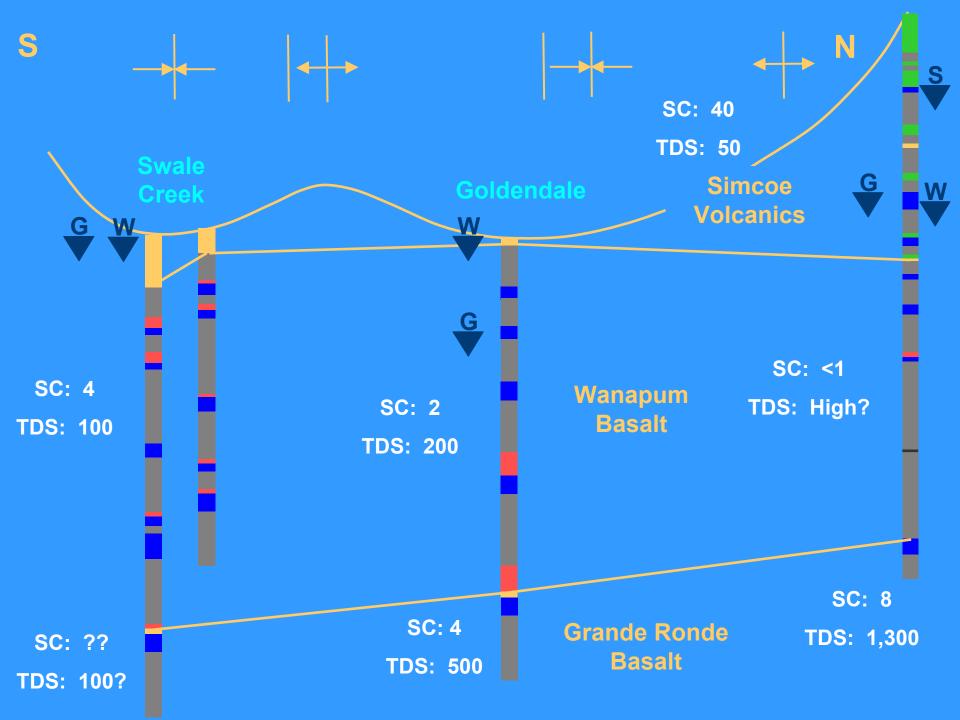
**Moderate Head Change** 

#### **Grande Ronde Basalt**

2,000 gpm, 8 gpm/ft 1,300 ppm TDS

#### **Cross Section Location**





# Summary

# Hydrogeologic interpretation is based on multiple lines of evidence

- Yield is influenced by ....
  - The presence/absence of basalt flows and the nature of flow tops and pillows
  - The degree of vertical connection among basalts
- Water quality is influenced by ....
  - Residence time
  - Proximity to recharge source

